

K-121

Blackhal's Hermitage
near Chestertown
Date?

Blackhal's Hermitage had a location similar to the adjoining Hopewell Farm, on a ridge a little less than a mile back from the Chester River. It was situated so as to look over at least half of the farm. When constructed, either in the late 1790's or early 1800's, it was similar to Boxley and Marrowbone, both three bay, 1 1/2 story dwelling. Its principal facade was laid in Flemish bond above an unmolded water table. The house was 33' long by 20'8" wide and had a hall-parlor plan with chimneys built within the rectangular plan.

In the late 19th century the house was remodeled to resemble a Gothic cottage. At that time the roof and gables were pulled off and a short second floor was built. A projecting gable with porch below was added to the river side. This addition boasted two windows in the Gothic style. While the addition may have originally been sheathed in weatherboard, shingles survived into the 1980's.

With the replacement of the fireplaces by chimney stacks, the interior space was large enough to install a center stair. A small T wing was added to the rear.

In the 1860 map printed by Simon Martinet, the property was listed in the ownership of Levi Fiddis who owned the property to the west as well. In 1877, the Atlas bears the name of Rev. T. N. Frazier. The house and all but one barn were demolished in the early 1980's to increase the area of

productive land on the farm.

BLACKHALS HERMITAGE
Chestertown, Maryland
(19th)

Standing on property called "Blackhals Hermitage" in the seventeenth century, is a small Gothic Revival cottage into which is incorporated the brick walls of an earlier dwelling. No early detailing survives except the Flemish brick walls which appear to have a part of a four-bay long dwelling constructed during the first quarter of the 19th century.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

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K - 460

MAGI # 1504606327

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC BLACKHALS HERMITAGE

AND/OR COMMON Clark Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☒ OTHER *vacant*

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Robert W./Doris S. Clark

Telephone #: 301-348-5044

STREET & NUMBER

Fair Promise Farm

CITY, TOWN

Betterton,

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21610**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kent County Court House

Liber #: E H P 55

Folio #: 215

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, MD 21620

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Maryland Historical Trust, Survey of Kent County

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust, The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis, MD 21401

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old house on the western portion of the Clark Farm is sited on a ridge of land about one mile from the north shore of the Chester River. The view its front yard encompasses Chestertown, the River, and the treeline of Morgan Creek.

The brick walls of an early 19th century story and a half house are incorporated into this small building. Its second floor and one-and-one-half story ell probably date from the end of the last century.

The main house is four bays long and one bay deep and measures 33' X 20' 8". Flemish bond was used for the south facade where there is also a stepped water table; rear and side walls are Liverpool bond. Bricks are very regular in shape and measure 2 3/8" X 8" X 4 1/4"; three courses measure 8" vertically. The original building was divided into two rooms by a transverse brick wall and probably had a hall and parlour plan.

The entire second story of the building is frame and has a bold front gable which is two bays wide. This portion of the structure is extremely plain, having no decorative architectural moldings either at the cornice or at the windows and doors. There is a two-bay, shed roof entrance porch and similiar side porch.

Windows have 4/4 sash. In the front gable is a pair of windows with triangular upper sash. Chimneys are enclosed in the gables.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-121

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES *early 19th & later*

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is included in the survey because it is an early farm house. No original features except the brick walls have survived, however, and these would appear to date from the early 19th century. The incorporation of these walls into a later Gothic Revival cottage is an interesting solution to an unusual design problem.

According to a plat map filed in the Kent County Land Records, (7/234) this property was called "Blackhals Hermitage" and had been surveyed by 1692. For much of its history, however, this property was considered to be a part of the adjacent Hopewell (K-205).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

K-121

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Planning Commission

DATE

778-4600 ext.67

STREET & NUMBER

Court House

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland 21620

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

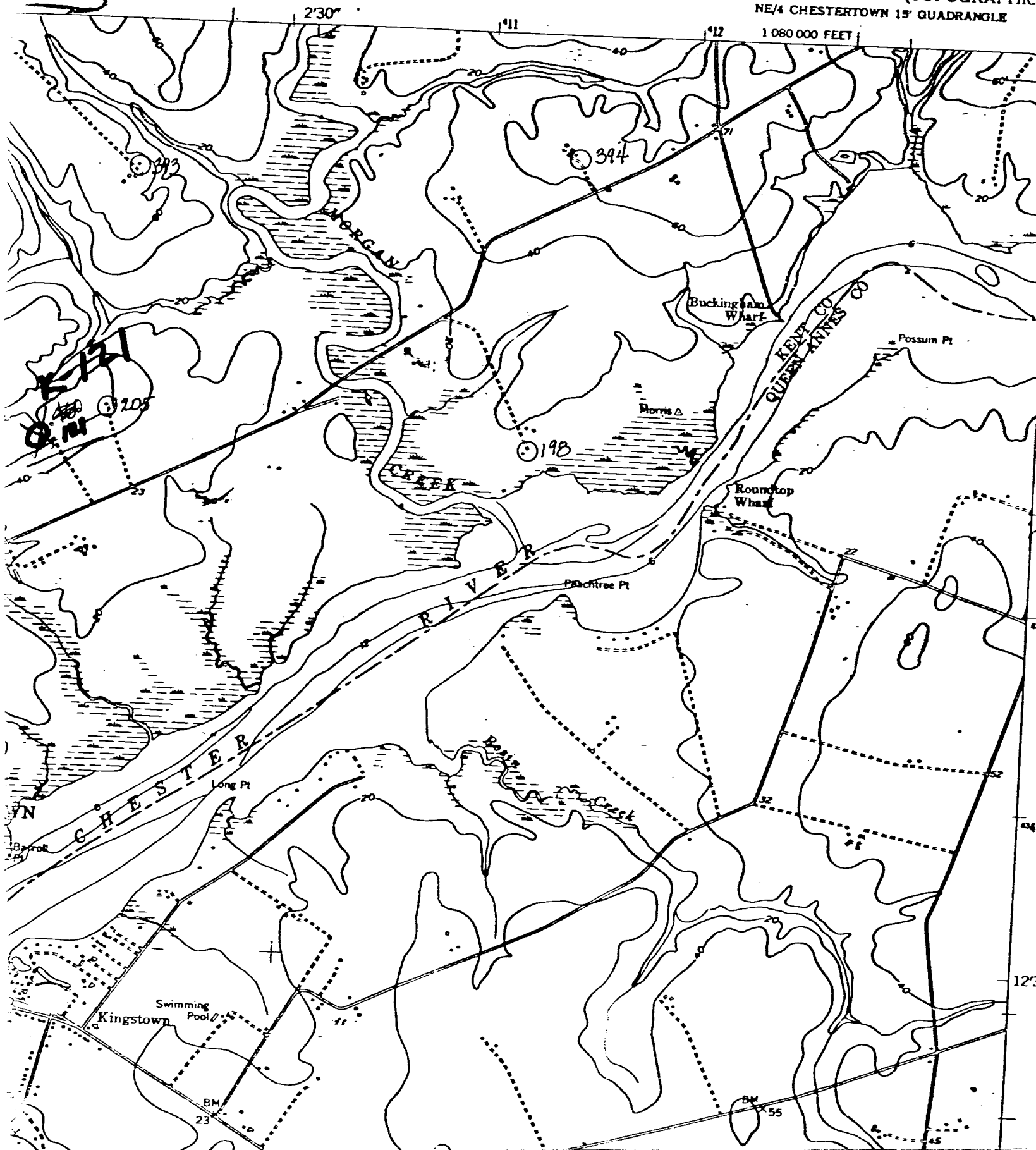
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Like the main house the ell is very simple; the frame portions of the structure are covered with wooden shingles. Interior detailing is extremely plain. There is an enclosed central stair.

The building is vacant and deteriorating.

S
ARMY

K-121
CHESTERTOWN QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE/4 CHESTERTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE





~~K-132~~

J. Tyler Campbell
FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

JAN 15 1980

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M.L. Fritz

1/1980

View from the southwest

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
LIBRARY

K-12L Blackha's Hermitage c.1800